

December 20, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Detroit Legal News: Appointments made to Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions

"The Michigan Supreme Court announced its appointments to the Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions, which drafts standard instructions for juries in civil cases. The 21-member Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions, created under Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2001-6, is composed of judges and attorneys appointed by the Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.

Also see:

The MLW Blog: Judges, lawyers named to jury instructions committee

[Full story](#)

Appointments to Committee on Model Civil Jury Instructions announced by Michigan Supreme Court

[Press release](#)

Ann Arbor News: Court rules city had good reason to object to Dream Nite Club's liquor license renewal

"The city of Ann Arbor has prevailed in another court action brought by the owners of the now-closed Dream Nite Club. The Michigan Court of Appeals on Thursday affirmed a Washtenaw County Circuit Court decision to dismiss a lawsuit brought by the club, which objected to the city's decision last year to recommend non-renewal of the club's liquor license."

[Full story](#)

Bay City Times: Former Bay County employee who filed sexual harassment lawsuit gets out-of-court settlement of \$250,000

"A former Bay County Friend of the Court employee who filed a federal lawsuit alleging a supervisor routinely sexually harassed her has received a six-figure payout from the county.... In light of the out-of-court settlement, U.S. District Judge Thomas L. Ludington on Wednesday, Nov. 27, dismissed with prejudice McIver's lawsuit. Dismissing it with prejudice means the suit cannot be filed again."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Legal News: Former court employee gets \$250K settlement (second article)

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Court of Appeals Chief Judge Murphy elected as treasurer of SCAO Council of Chief Judges

"Court of Appeals Chief Judge William B. Murphy was recently elected to serve as the treasurer of the Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal throughout the United States. This leadership position is the first on Judge Murphy's path to being elected as the Council's president within the next few years."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Grand Rapids Legal News.

Also see:

The MLW Blog: COA's Murphy elected treasurer of national chief judges' group

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Chupa appointed to 37th District bench

"Gov. Rick Snyder Thursday announced the appointment of Michael Chupa, of Warren, to the 37th District Court, which serves the cities of Warren and Centerline.... He will replace Judge Jennifer Faunce, who was appointed to Macomb County circuit court, and will have to run for election in November 2014 for a full six-year term."

[Full story](#)

Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Healer of Controversy: New Peacemaking Court will help ease relationship conflicts

"A dream has come true for Washtenaw County Trial Court Judge Timothy Connors who will oversee a new Peacemaking Court thanks to a yearlong grant from the state's Court Performance Innovation Fund.... The Peacemaking Court will use Native American principles for resolving disputes, using values Connors refers to as the four Rs: respect, responsibility, relationship, and redirection."

[Full story](#)

Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Sworn to Duty

"It was a family affair November 15 when U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Damon J. Keith performed a swearing in ceremony for his granddaughter, Nia Keith Brown, a new attorney from Chicago. The ceremony, witnessed by Wayne County Probate Judge Terrance Keith, came on the heels of a luncheon earlier in the day celebrating the release of Judge Damon Keith's new book, 'Crusader for Justice.' "

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Legal News: District court celebrates a year of steady progress

"The 61st District Court has a lot to celebrate this year, and what better way than to throw a party? Of course, it being the holiday time of year, they would have thrown a party anyway, but when a court can increase revenues, reduce expenses, and still improve the court experience for the public, the party might just be more meaningful."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Legal News: Update

"As of Dec. 18, Governor Rick Snyder signed into law the bill intended to supply a 'fix' for the legislation moving the Court of Claims to the state Court of Appeals, as covered in the Grand Rapids Legal News for Dec. 6, 2013. [HB 5156 clarifies that nothing in the Court of Claims Act, including the recent amendments transferring the court to the state Court of Appeals, eliminates any right to a jury trial.]"

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Oakland County Legal News: Gov. signs law clarifying jury right in lawsuits

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Missing attorney halts court hearing for trio accused in year-old homicide

"Three suspects were in court facing felony murder charges, but it was an absent attorney who got in the most trouble. Grand Rapids District Court Judge David Buter adjourned the probable cause hearing Friday Dec. 20, for three men accused of last year's murder and robbery of Jason Cherry because a vital prosecution witness did not have his attorney present."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Federal Judge Damon J. Keith to visit Book Beat on Sunday

"Federal Judge Damon J. Keith will be at Book Beat bookstore this weekend, from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22, for an informal holiday book signing with his acclaimed biography and legal history, 'Crusader for Justice.' The Honorable Damon J. Keith was appointed to the federal bench in 1967, and has served as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit since 1977, where he has been a defender of civil and constitutional rights and a vigorous enforcer of civil rights law."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Oakland Press.

The MLW Blog: 2014 brings procedural, disciplinary court rule changes

"Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, numerous Michigan Court Rules are either new or have been amended. Here is an overview of the changes and what you need to know about each."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Motion Call cancelled

"The Oakland County Probate Court and Oakland County Circuit Court Civil/Criminal Division and Family Division Motion Call has been cancelled for December 25, 2013, and January 1, 2014. The first Motion Call of the new year will be January 8, 2014."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Charges dismissed in Oakland County medical marijuana case

"Medical marijuana advocates are applauding news that charges against a Ferndale medical marijuana patient charged with marijuana possession and delivery have been dropped.... [Earl] Carruthers has another case where the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled edible marijuana is not protected by the state's Medical Marijuana Act, approved in 2008. That case has been appealed to the state Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)